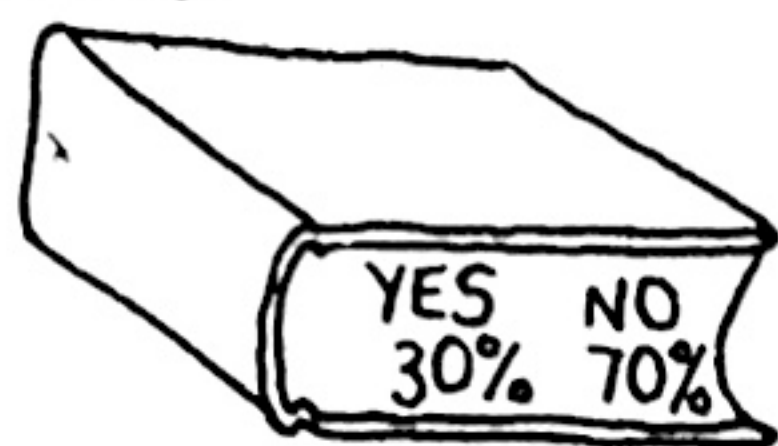


Did you finish your summer reading?



Of the 69 students surveyed, only 30 percent of them completed their summer reading by the first day of school this year. Find out more about the summer reading program on page 10.

the SHAKERITE

15911 ALDERSYDE DR.

VOLUME 60, NUMBER 1

SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

SEPTEMBER 19, 1989

Secretaries, library aides and clerks

STRIKE!

BY JOSHUA LEVY
Co-Editor-in-Chief

After reaching an impasse with the school board regarding contract negotiations, the clerks, library aides and secretaries of the 46 member Ohio Association of Public Employees (OAPSE) Local 149 went on strike yesterday.

In the 77 year history of Shaker schools, this is the first strike by any union.

Superintendent Mark Freeman said that the schools will continue to operate normally. He added that temporary replacements have been hired for the striking OAPSE members.

The board and OAPSE have been negotiating the union's three-year contract since April and have been at an impasse since July 25.

According to guidance department record specialist Marilyn Lindbloom, the board originally proposed a six percent increase over three years in addition to proposing a new hospitalization plan.

"The board has been offering a new insurance policy, but we do not want it because it is not as good as the one we have now," Lindbloom said. "It would mean money out of our pockets."

She added that the board has since raised the salary increase to 12.25 percent increase over three years, while the union is asking for a 12 percent increase for three years.

"I am willing to strike until my women get the benefits the rest of the Shaker Heights School District employees have," Lindbloom said. "We

have had our insurance plan for years. The teachers fought for it [last year] and got it. We want to do so, as well."

While no new talks have been scheduled, Chief Union Representative Ruth Cooper said the OAPSE bargaining committee would be available up until the 11th hour Sunday.

According to the union members' contract, which expired July 30, the board paid the monthly premiums for the union members. The contract stated that employees only pay \$1 per month for individual coverage and \$2 per month for family coverage.

According to Lindbloom, the board would no longer cover the premium in full, if the new policy is implemented.

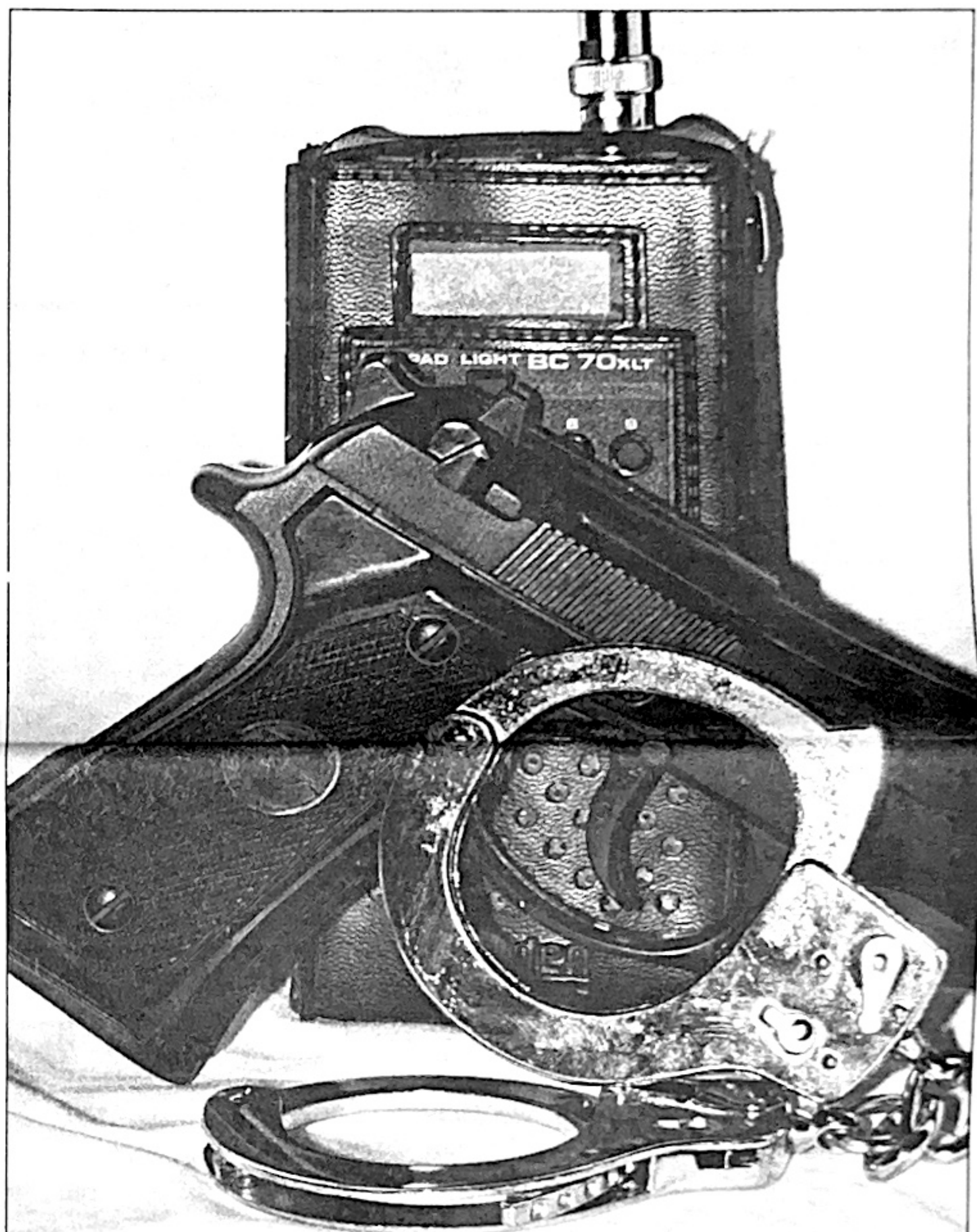
Freeman said that the new Comprehensive Major Medical plan would save the school district \$27,000.

"The health care crisis is a national, regional and local problem," Freeman said. "It is unfortunate these premiums have to be negotiated by administrators and employees."

In a letter to Shaker Heights Teacher Association (SHTA) representative William Scherer, SHTA's attorney Paul Lefkowitz wrote that the SHTA is not obligated to strike if OAPSE strikes.

SHTA representatives did encourage staff members to support the OAPSE strike in a letter dated Sept. 15.

The letter requested SHTA members not to answer phones, not to use the Xerox machines normally operated by striking OAPSE members, not to use A-V equipment and to participate in a sympathy picket with OAPSE before and after school hours.



A FAREWELL TO ARMS. Several security guards will not be returning to the high school this year, including Nancy and Gary Johnston. Read more about security changes on page 3. Photo by Evan Weinstein

23

Shaker students named National Merit Semi-finalists for third time this decade

BY JOSHUA LEVY
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Outshining all other public schools in Ohio, Shaker boasts 23 National Merit Semi-finalists and three National Achievement Semi-finalists.

The class of 1990 is the third class to have

23 merit semi-finalists during this decade. The classes of 1987 and 1985 also had 23.

Merit semi-finalists include: seniors Jay Bodzin, Katherine Chang, Tyson Chihaya, Sarah Davis, Marisa Dolinsky, Ari Green, Susannah Gunter, Jill Johnsen, Andrew Jorgensen, Matthew Knepley, Glenn Kohner, Varuni Kondagunta, Stephen Lee, Eliana LeVine, Amy Loch-

ner, Maureen Mahowald, Harold Mason, Jean-Paul Olynik, Joshua Polster, Austin Ratner, Meredith Schneider and Evan Weinstein.

Only two students in the state scored as high or better on the PSAT than Knepley, who had a perfect score on the verbal section of the test.

Seniors Rebecca Johnson, Steven Leonard and Harold Mason qualified as National Achieve-

ment Semi-Finalists. This year only 1500 students nationwide received this honor, awarded only to Black Americans.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation will notify high school principals Feb. 5 of which semi-finalists qualify to be finalists. Ninety percent of merit semi-finalists become finalists.

Wasteful thinking? . . . 4 / Summer Sizzlers . . . 8 / New volleyball coach . . . 11

Initiative could raze Towne Center redevelopment plans

BY JILL PELAVIN
Staff Reporter

Plans to redevelop the Shaker Towne Center might be altered by the passing of an initiative proposed to renovate the existing buildings in the area. If approved by the school board, the initiative will be on the Sept. 17 ballot in Shaker. An initiative is a law, which the people may petition for and enact by a vote.

As of press time, the school board has not yet approved the exact language of the initiative drafted by the city of Shaker Heights' law offices. The proposed language is as follows, "Should the Shaker Towne Center community development plan adopted by city council on May 23, 1988, calling for the acquisition by the city of the properties located in the area bounded by Chagrin, Lee, Winslow and Avalon Roads, removal of most of these properties, and resale of the land to a developer who will redevelop the site as a new convenience-oriented retail shopping center, be replaced by a plan requiring the city instead to renovate only the exteriors of the existing commercial buildings and parking lots."

Stuart Kline, managing partner of Chase Properties and developer of the city's initial plan, said the present plan is based on a master four-phase plan proposed two years ago by the Real Estate Research Corporation of Chicago.

According to Kline, the first phase is the completed Blaschild dealership at the southwest quadrant of the area. The second phase would be the Shaker Towne Center at the northeast quadrant of the area. Kline said a new shopping center would be erected there. The third phase involves the construction of new office buildings on the north-

Sept. 25. The city must purchase all ten properties to follow through with its plan and sell the land to the developer.

If the initiative is not passed and the plan continues, Kline said the scheduled development of this area would up the market value of the area from \$3.5 million to \$8 million.

certainly drop."

"The schools now get \$120,000 from the center, but after the redevelopment, they will receive \$240,000 from the center," Mayor Steve Alfred.

While millions of dollars in tax revenue might be generated, certain merchants are upset that they will have to find a new location for their business. Alfred said that the Shell Gas Station, Shaker Auto Hospital, Amy Joy and Thriftique will have to move.

"A few merchants would be replaced," Kline stated. "You can't build an \$8 million project and have a second-hand clothing store."

According to Kline, the city has been working for two months to find a new space for Thriftique.

"I strongly feel an expenditure of \$8 million should be put on the ballot," Marie Walzer, a volunteer at Thriftique, said.

Alfred added that many of the elderly residents, who have been shopping at the Shaker Towne Center for years, would like the shopping center to remain the way it is.

"I am for progress, but not to tear everything down and put up a lot of big building," 60-year resident Florence Bialosky said.

"Many of the people that shop here are not residents, so we are serving a community that needs merchandise," 60-year resident Ida Himmel said.



The schools will always need [a school levy] — salaries go up, maintenance costs go up, the costs of supplies go up. But, if you more than double the market value of this area, then the millage would certainly drop."

—STUART KLINE

west quadrant. The fourth and final phase would be the renovation of the southeast quadrant.

The City Council approved the city's acquisition of four of the aforementioned properties Aug. 29. The acquired properties are Heinens', Shaker Hardware, the Baskin Robbins property and the bowling alley. According to Kline, Heinens' and Shaker Hardware will be renovated under the city's original plan, while the Baskin Robbins property and the bowling alley will be excluded from the plan entirely.

According to Shaker Heights Director of Public Affairs Rosemary Herple, two more of these properties are on the agenda for City Council's approval

Kline stated that revenues generated from real estate taxes are directly proportional to the market value of a property. He added that by more than doubling the market value of the area to \$8 million, the tax revenue will clearly increase.

Herple said that 69 percent of the city's real estate tax revenue is directed to the Shaker schools.

"It is not a function of whether [the school system] needs or does not need a levy. The schools will always need it — salaries go up, maintenance costs go up, the costs of supplies go up," Kline said. "But if you more than double the market value of this area, then the millage would

High school adopts activity point system

BY STEPHEN LEE
News Editor

A point system for participation in extra- and co-curricular activities has been established which assigns each student between one and five points for each office or activity held by the student.

According to the 1989-90 Student Activities Handbook, the system was implemented "in order to distribute the positions of responsibility among a larger number of students and at the same time encourage students to consider their participation in activities carefully."

Although it is recommended that an individual accumulate no more than eight points at any time during the school year, a student with regular attendance and good academic records may participate in activities totaling up to 10 points, according to the Handbook.

Principal Jack Rumbaugh said the system is intended only as a guideline for students, and will not be enforced.

ONE point is assigned to members of clubs meeting once monthly, members of Student Council (except Officers and Committee Chairpersons), and members of the Class Council committees.

TWO points are assigned to members of clubs meeting twice monthly and officers of clubs meeting once monthly.

THREE points are assigned to members of clubs meeting three times monthly, officers of clubs meeting twice monthly, and chairpersons of Student Council and Class Council committees.

FOUR points are assigned to members of clubs meeting weekly, officers of clubs meeting three times monthly, cheerleaders, and members of Marching Band and Band Front.

FIVE points are assigned to officers of clubs meeting weekly, Student Council Officers, Class Officers, participants in interscholastic sports, and editors and managers of the Shakerite and the Grismill.

Principals abolish ISS

BY MARSHALL LEVIN
Staff Reporter

The In-School Suspension (ISS) program, an alternative to traditional suspension where a suspended student could remain at school to work in an isolated atmosphere, was terminated after the 1988-89 school year following an evaluation of its effectiveness.

According to Principal Jack Rumbaugh, the decision was made in April or May after he and the assistant principals studied the program.

Former ISS supervisor Ann Crawford admitted that the program had weaknesses.

"The problem with the system was that the recidivism rate was so high," Crawford said. "It needed to be a much broader system — I was their tutor, counselor and warden."

"We were not able to address the serious problems for which the students were sent to the center: cutting class, stealing or being involved in a conflict with a teacher. I was only able to focus on their academic work," Crawford continued.

"The main value of [ISS] was that the students were under good supervision. But it had limitations. Not enough space was available — we had kids on waiting lists," Assistant Principal Isaac Smith said. "Also, for some students, being out of class was their intention."

Assistant Principal Desadre Lawson feels the ISS program was beneficial in improving the academic

atmosphere for many students.

"It offered students an opportunity to have daily interaction, if needed, with teachers to give enrichment to whatever assignments, just as if in a classroom," Lawson said.

According to Crawford, the ISS program needed more money and more energy to be successful.

According to Rumbaugh, another reason for terminating ISS was because the program was not cost effective.

"[Canceling the program] was one way to make our spending more effective," Rumbaugh said.

ISS tied up two staff positions and cost the system \$75 thousand per year, according to Rumbaugh.

"There was an opening at the middle school to teach English, so it was an opportune time for Ann Crawford to be reassigned," Rumbaugh said.

The existing Saturday School program has been expanded in order to provide an alternative to in-school suspensions as well as out-of-school suspensions for more serious infractions.

The new guidelines for Saturday School specify that a student must complete work assigned by a teacher or study rather than spending the detention time idly.

Lawson explained that a student given an out-of-school suspension is at home and is in a position to socialize with friends rather than completing schoolwork.

Johnstons resign from security posts at high school

Rumbaugh seeking full time security personnel

BY STEPHEN LEE
News Editor

The high school security detail involving the school district employees with the Shaker Heights Police Department is undergoing restructuring and reorganization to improve efficiency and visibility throughout the school, according to principal Jack Rumbaugh.

Rumbaugh said he was not satisfied with the present system in which part time security personnel employed by the police department were only able to provide 75 percent coverage.

Rumbaugh attributes this to inefficient scheduling by the police department.

"The issue was the scheduling of the part-time patrolmen," Rumbaugh said.

The reorganization of the security detail will involve the hiring of three full time security personnel who have had previous school district security experience, Rumbaugh said.

Additionally, Rumbaugh said he will employ two officers from the police department, who would not necessarily work full time.

"I reached the decision that we would have greater continuity in security coverage if we employed at least three full time security people and worked full time with the Shaker Heights Police Department," Rumbaugh said. "My intent is to get better coverage and I believe I will get better coverage."

Lieutenant Gary Johnston, who headed the high school security detail involving the police department, resigned as a result of the reorganization after working 19 years at the high school. Johnston also served as an adviser to the high school Rifle Club.

Rumbaugh said Johnston resigned as a result of philosophical differences concerning the

duty of the police within the school.

Johnston was unhappy with the reorganization of the high school security.

"During the past two years, our function at the high school has been relegated to that of a guard or hall monitor," Johnston said. "I think there is going to be a general move to completely remove the police department from the school. They ought to just come out and say it."

Rumbaugh denies this and says that the school will continue working with the police department.

Johnston also criticized the school for terminating an in-school police operation which maintained reports and records of stolen property.

According to Johnston, the operation was computerized and was highly efficient and successful, with a 30 to 40 percent rate of recovery.

Rumbaugh does not believe it is the duty of the security personnel to run such an operation.

"If I am paying for [a security guard], I want him visible. I do not want him at the office doing someone else's work," Rumbaugh said.

Currently, the unit principals and secretaries are responsible for taking theft reports.

Johnston said that following the termination of the operation, the number of theft reports taken by the school decreased from approximately 400 reports each year to only nine reports last year.

"I know the truth. There is a lot of theft that is not reported now," Johnston said. "The whole thing was a sham in my opinion."

Johnston added that the police employed by the school were ordered by Rumbaugh not to take police reports while on duty.

According to Rumbaugh, the constant filing of police reports for minor incidents reduces efficiency and detracts from the visibility

of the security personnel.

"We are a school and not a police agency," Rumbaugh said. "What good does it do to have high school security guards sit in an office and file a report?"

Associate principal Robert Mohny agrees security guards should be visible in the halls.

"The problem was we needed, and need, security out in the halls," Mohny said. "We do not want to make the security a Gestapo state. We want them to be visible and friendly with the kids."

Johnston said many security personnel working at the high school have voiced their displeasure over the reorganization of the security detail.

Several patrolmen have decided not to work for the school as a result of the changes, according to Johnston.

Johnston's wife Nancy has resigned from the high school after learning she would have to give up her other part-time jobs in order to remain, said Gary Johnston.

Besides her work at the high school, Nancy Johnston was involved with the Safety Town program, spoke to elementary students on behalf of the Crime Prevention Bureau, worked as a bailiff at Shaker Municipal Court, and was employed by the Warrensville Heights school district.

According to Gary Johnston, these jobs did not conflict with her duties at the high school.

Nancy Johnston stresses that their decision to resign had nothing to do with the students.

"We did not leave because of the kids. We love them and we will miss them," Johnston said.

Rumbaugh is currently interviewing security applicants for this school year. During the interim, Rumbaugh is working with Officers Tom Gray and Tim Reed from the juvenile department of the police department.

Out with old, in with new

COMPUTERIZED GUIDANCE

A new computer system has been installed in the guidance department allowing counselors to immediately perform scheduling changes and access student information.

The old system, which consisted primarily of hand scheduling, was slow and inefficient, according to guidance department head R. Jeffrey Lewis. The new system eliminates the need for information to be sent through the school district's data processing department and is over 90 percent efficient, according to Lewis.

"This new system gives counselors instantaneous feedback. It informs them immediately of mistakes, and it allows the students to know that all the changes have actually been made... Because this system eliminates much of the paperwork, the counselors have more time to spend one on one with students," Lewis said.

THE BRIEFS

GUICE IS NEW DEPARTMENT HEAD

Spanish teacher Dr. Norma Guice has been named the new foreign language department head. Principal Jack Rumbaugh and the other foreign language teachers collaborated on the determination of Guice as the new head.

PRINCIPAL TO PERSONNEL

Former assistant principal Bill Trost has been reassigned from the high school to the personnel department at the administration building.

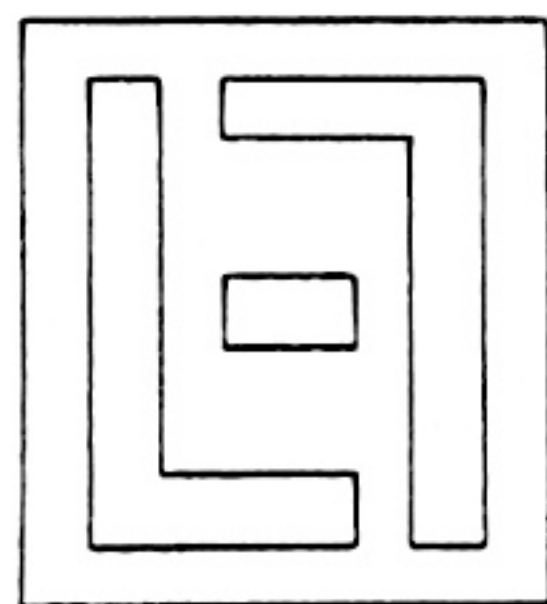
Trost also said he looks forward to getting involved with the staff district-wide.

Trost is now responsible for reviewing applications submitted by teachers, screening potential teachers and substitute teachers, and writing contracts.

EMS week in Shaker

The city's Emergency Medical Service team will meet residents and answer questions at Van Aken shopping center and Heinen's Chagrin Blvd. this week, from 1:30 — 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Blood pressure screenings will be available at both locations and health related pamphlets will be distributed. The EMS program was created in the early 1970's, one of the first in the country.

A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT



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Towne Centre plan will prove beneficial

THE RITE IDEA

THE SHAKERITE'S STAFF EDITORIAL REFLECTS THE VIEWS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD. EACH ISSUE, THE SHAKERITE WILL PRESENT ITS POSITION ON A SUBJECT CONCERNING THE SHAKER HEIGHTS SCHOOL SYSTEM, COMMUNITY, OR TOPICS OF CONCERN TO OUR READERS.

Eminent domain procedures, in which the government forces relocation of tenants on land to be profitably developed by private enterprise, have long stirred protest from those located on or near the land to be developed.

The protest against the Shaker Towne Centre plan may take the form of an issue at the November elections. If so, we encourage voting to continue the development of the land between Chagrin, Lee, Avalon and Winslow Roads.

The government allows for real estate development for the purpose of improving the general welfare, and this most certainly would improve the welfare of the Shaker Heights School District. The estimated market value of the project in 1990, when it will be completed, is around \$8 million, and real estate tax returns (69 percent of which go to the Shaker schools) will be drastically increased. The educational benefits obviously will be tremendous. The city has been

working to arrange new locations for tenants, and what sacrifice they must make is legitimate in light of the tax money for constructive governmental and educational use the plan will provide. Besides, the shopping center will be useful of its own accord, and would be an improvement on the present retail environment.

Millage on future levies would be decreased, thus easing the financial pressure on Shaker residents. The expansion of a currently small real estate tax base for Shaker will lower the city's dependence on residential taxes. In addition, the housing values around the new development are bound to rise, profiting nearby residents.

Such plans are essential to the maintenance of Shaker's high standard and relatively low cost of living. The move would in general be a positive, constructive one—development of Shaker Heights in the true sense of the word.

Nuclear free zone inane

BY ANDREW JORGENSEN
Staff Reporter

One of the issues greeting Shaker voters this November will be the decision on whether or not to declare Shaker Heights, by law, a "Nuclear Free Zone." While this choice is presented as a simple matter, it is not so clear cut.

As Thomas Jefferson said, "The government that governs best is that which governs least." Laws should be effective and few in number. They should not be used lightly or only to make a moral statement. The declaration of Shaker as a Nuclear Free Zone is an inane matter and thus must be avoided. This November, Shaker citizens must vote against the Nuclear Free Zone issue.

The ordinance, if approved, would prevent "except as provided for by any specific act of Congress, the development, testing, production, maintenance, storage, or transportation of nuclear warheads or nuclear war systems, or applied nuclear weapons research, or the storage or transportation of nuclear waste within the city of Shaker Heights."

Ignoring for the moment the fact that very few nuclear warheads are transported through Shaker borders, this proposal is impractically worded. It would prevent all move-

ment of nuclear war systems through Shaker, "except as provided for by any specific act of Congress."

As the country's nuclear weaponry is under the control of the Defense Department, and the President is Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, most routine movement would be instrumented by departmental action and emergency movement by executive action. But by passing this ordinance Shaker would be interfering with the federal government's potential for national defense. This is an act of arrogance.

Of course, this question may be irrelevant, as no nuclear war devices are now made in or taken through Shaker. A similar ordinance in Cleveland Heights provided for nothing more than the creation of signs and bumperstickers declaring it a "Nuclear Free Zone." These facts raise the question of just why this ordinance might be necessary.

Obviously, it is not. This ordinance would be purposeless except as an anti-nuclear statement.

The proposal is sponsored by a subgroup of SANE-Freeze, an anti-nuclear group, and the subgroup is concerned not only with public safety but with making a specific statement against the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

City council endorsed the Nu-

clear Free Zone unanimously, yet it on the ballot instead of passing it into law themselves. Vice-Mayor Peter Lawson Jones, who sponsored the endorsement resolution, said that the issue is partially an attempt to make the public conversant in the subject of nuclear proliferation, to raise concern in the public over the issue.

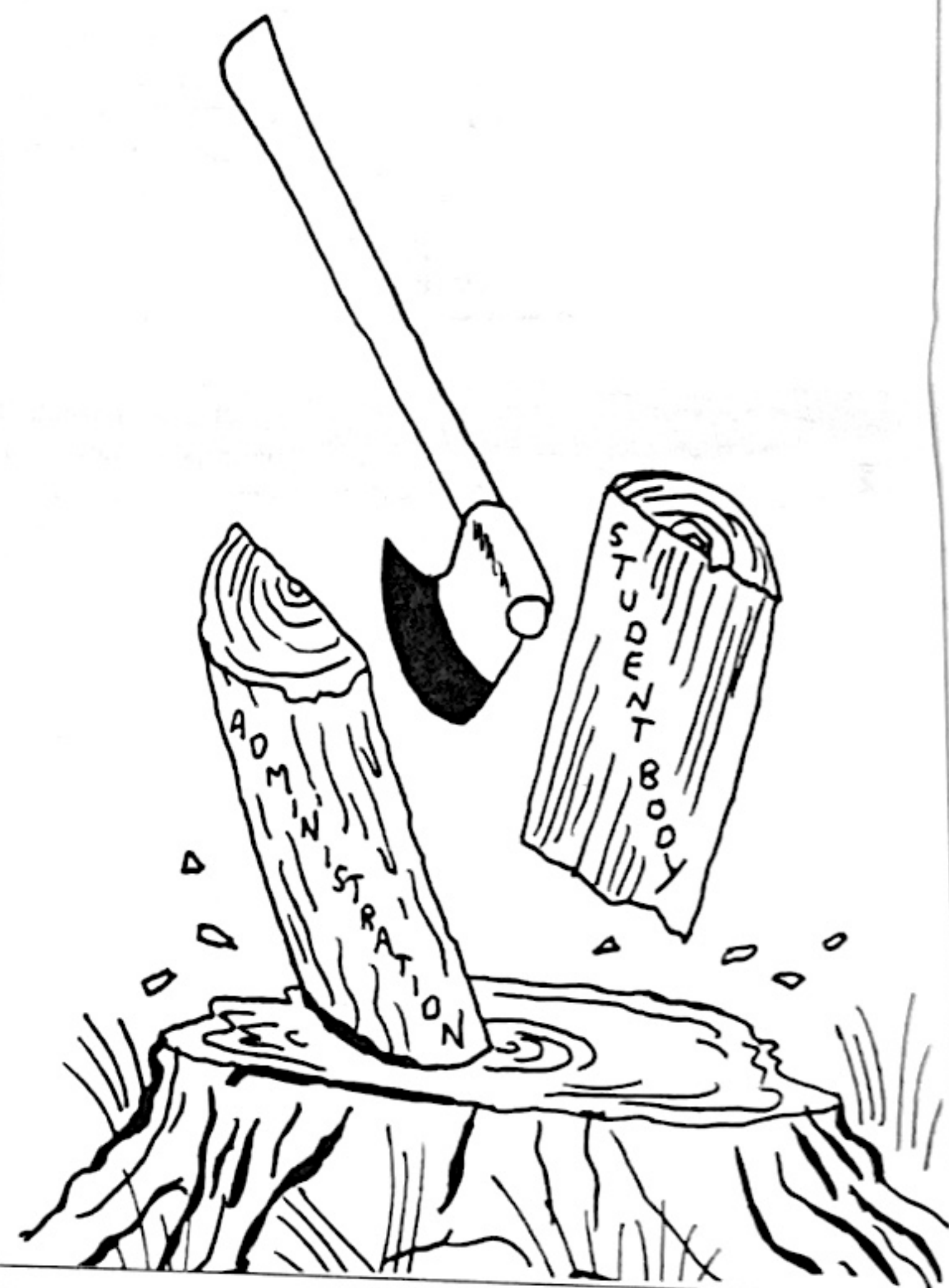
But proposing legislation is not the proper way of making a statement; putting an issue on the ballot is not the proper way of educating the public. Laws should be few in number, but the ones in effect should be precious; they must be necessary—a law is a terrible thing to waste. If given the choice between having a law which is inane but makes a statement and not having such a law, Shaker voters must choose the latter.

Proliferation of nuclear weapons should be feared. However, there is a crucial difference between a community making a statement and passing it into law. The proliferation of worthless laws should be feared as much as the proliferation of nuclear weapons, for they weaken the laws which have legitimate purposes.

Were the ballot issue either to create effective legislation or to be recognized as a statement of concern alone, it should be supported. Instead it creates an ineffective law which masks a statement of concern—this type of law we should avoid the most.

STUDENT COUNCIL:

CUTTING THE WRONG WOOD.



THIS ISSUE, A PUBLIC FORUM FOR AND ABOUT THE STUDENTS OF SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL, IS THE FIRST ONE OF THE 1989-1990 SCHOOL YEAR.

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- ☒ CSPA 1988 Gold Crown Award Winner
- ☒ 1988 Class A all-newspaper Golden Flash Award Winner

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Polish primate mishandles complaints

Auschwitz issue reflects undying world-wide bigotry

PERSPECTIVE

BY AUSTIN RATNER
Opinion Editor

This month marked the 50th anniversary of the German invasion of Poland, the beginning of World War II. Here was an historic heralding of a frightening tide of fascism, throwing its gaping shadow across the world. Here was a time when an entire population could be, and was, subverted to a fanatic cause, a whole people, without much exception, drawn into a stampeding political machine. Here was a time when it seemed that good was clashing with evil.

From the defeat of the Axis on through the civil rights movement are apparent tributes to man's moral sense and social progress. But today, in 1989, those romantic

crusades are long gone, and their impact on the present taken for granted.

Of course a demand for such action now against bigotry and oppression is no more than a case of naive idealism, perhaps even pretentious self-righteousness.

However, there remains today an omnipresent lurking social danger; there are hidden nurtured prejudices as were exhumed in the inflammatory Auschwitz-convent situation. Going to war or staging massive demonstrations would be extreme responses to the social evils which subtly work today—evils of insensitivity, generalized conceptions of and illusions about a cultural or racial group. But some response is necessary for the maintenance of a social conscience. The response (or lack thereof) to the conflict in Poland is a current example of the divisive attitudes which remain among men.

It is not the fact that a convent was constructed just outside the grounds of Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz contrary to a 1987 agree-

ment, nor is it the fact that the Jews of Poland (only a few thousand are left) vehemently opposed the breaking of the agreement. The Jews have objected to the apparent consecration of a place where atrocity had been committed against their families, themselves, their people. What is most disturbing is the entirely unsympathetic, critical and defensive position of Poland's Roman Catholic Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp.

"Suppose someone came to your home and ordered you to move a wardrobe [analogous to the convent]. You would be justified in answering, 'Stupid, that's not your property,'" Glemp commented on the appeals to move the convent. This frankly blunt and silly remark illuminates an underlying regard for the Jews of Poland as strangers, "coming to the home" of Poland and apparently demanding a wardrobe be moved.

"Dear Jews," said Glemp, "do not talk with us from the position of a people raised above all others..." He further evidences a resentment for the Jews beyond their opposition to the convent.

Glemp also said, "When there is no more anti-Polish feeling, there will be no more anti-Semitism among us." He creates further friction with his defensiveness.

The Pope, a critically important source of moral leadership, offers no resistance to the Polish Catholic Church's expressions of anti-Semitism.

As is often the case in America, a minority's expressed anger (sometimes extreme expression) over the majority's lack of understanding and outright abuse, is responded to with defensive, unempathetic anger in return.

There is universally a lack of awareness of another's position, a lack of tolerance, and in many instances a good old case of social Darwinian racism.

And what can we do? How can such subtle and widespread malice be acted upon? The only answer is perhaps personal vigilance, personal awareness of bigotry and intolerance in those around us and in ourselves.

Student council fails to fulfill role

BY ALISA WARSHAY
Staff Reporter

you gonna call—"student council? Ideally, yes. Here at Shaker, no. Student council should be a link between the school administration and the students. Here at Shaker, it is not.

Student council is responsible for non-flammable activities, such as the Homecoming parade and dance, pep rallies, and the Bloodmobile, but has little to do with school policy or decisions concerning students.

It seems that student council has very little actual power. This is largely due to the lack of communication between the organization and the administration on important issues. Such was the case with the proposition of the ten period schedule last year, which directly affected students. In another more recent instance, student council had no voice on the issue of parking spaces around the oval reserved for faculty members.

The student council however, must prove itself worthy of important responsibilities concerning the school.

To begin with, responsible officers must be elected. Candidates should give speeches which inform fellow students of more than catchy campaign slogans. An open forum should take place where students can ask questions of each candidate. With such a rigorous election format, students will be able to vote for the person who will represent them well.

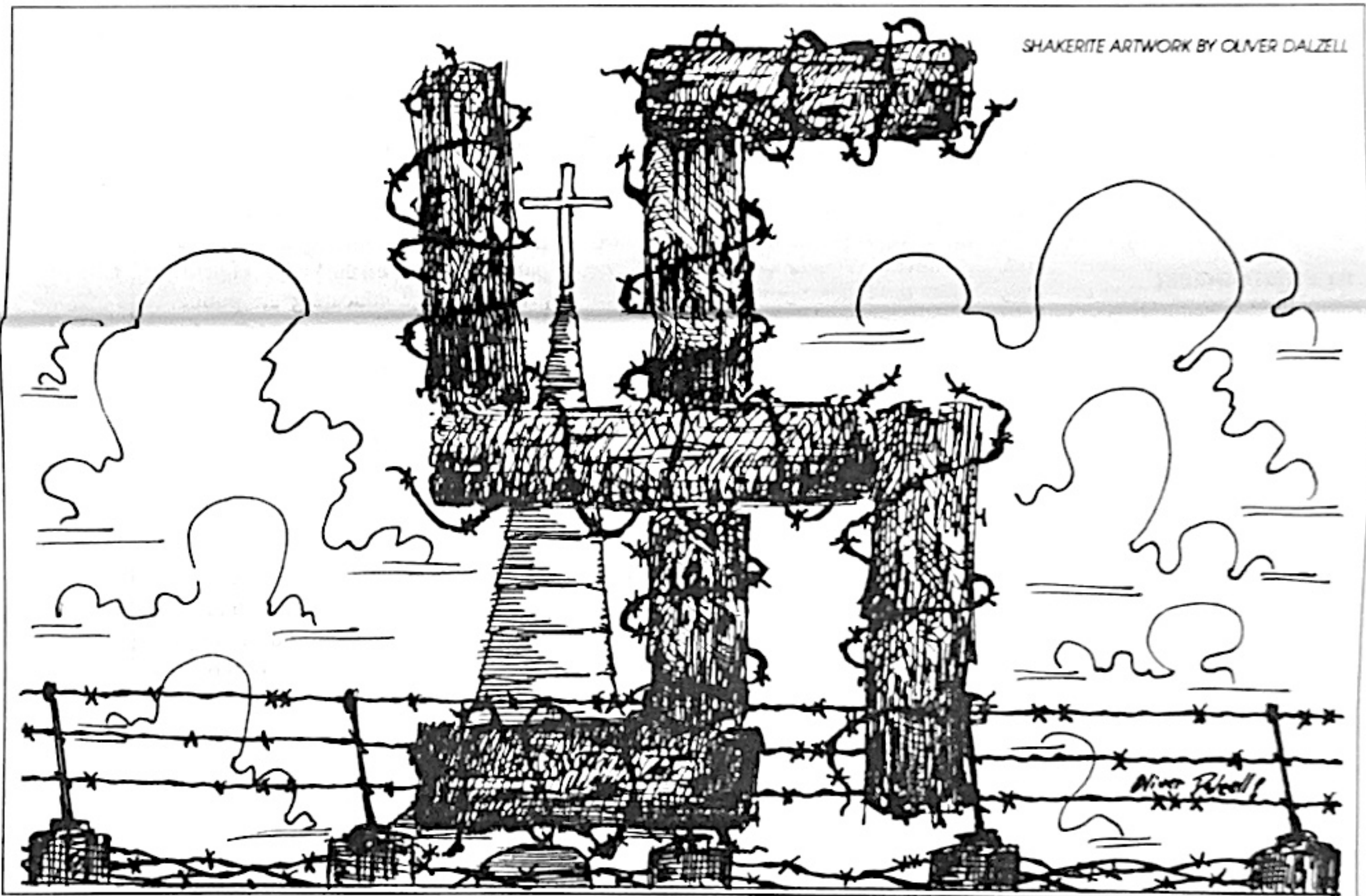
Those elected to student government must represent their classmates. They must communicate student concerns to the 'authorities.'

Representatives must inquire as to their fellow students' opinions on school policy. Questionnaires should be sent to homerooms periodically, asking students for suggestions and opinions. In addition, a suggestion box should be kept in a permanent location.

The student body should be kept up to date with what the student council is doing. A monthly newsletter, distributed during homeroom, would serve this purpose well.

A very important factor in making student council work is communication with the school administration on a regular basis. Perhaps selected members of the student council should meet with selected members of the administration once a month to discuss issues facing both the students and the administration.

When these changes are made within the structure of student council, this potentially important organization can start functioning as a much needed link between students and administration.



SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY OLIVER DALZELL

Freedoms limited in school environment

BY SARAH STEWART
Staff Reporter

Rights, according to the school's discipline and behavior handbook, are "things which a person may take for himself as an individual, often afforded by rules."

Citizens of the United States are granted the privileges stated in the Bill of Rights, just as Shaker students are given the rights allotted in the handbook. The controversy arises when the two sets of rights are compared.

To many students, high school is simply a stepping stone on the way to college or a successful career. Students of high school age, anxious to enter the "real world," feel strongly about obtaining the rights they would have outside school and are perhaps resentful of the restrictions on their behavior and expression.

The administrators and teachers of Shaker are not trying to deprive any student of his or her rights as a citizen. Their job is to provide a setting suitable for education, and this requires a struc-

tured, governed atmosphere.

First Amendment rights are for the most part upheld in school, and students may often express themselves freely in and out of class. The student organized rally last June, encouraging democracy in China, was one example of students exercising their freedoms of speech and assembly. Although the rally was held outside of school, the students were given the right to publicize the event during school hours.

Unnecessary disruptions which would be permissible under our broader scope of freedoms cannot be tolerated in a school environment. The school's responsibility to maintain an environment suitable for education is similar to that of the government's to enforce laws. The students have the right to express their opinions freely, but if they "disrupt the educational process," the school rightfully intervenes.

The school grants the students their entitled rights, and they waver only when the limits are stretched. It is a student's right to attend this school and his or her responsibility to respect it.

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Dirt bites the dust

BY KRISTI GOBEL
The Centerpiece Editor

Wussssh.
Puff. Puff.
Wussssh.
Clink. Clink.
Wussssh.

These sounds are part of locker room custodian Janice Thrower's life. Starting at 7:00, Thrower does what most people do not want to do. She cleans.

As one of the school's eight day custodians, Thrower's job is to help maintain the building for the 12 night custodians who thoroughly clean it.

Pushing the trash cart, which is already half full of every kind of garbage, towards the cafeteria, Thrower stops at the water fountain. She is not thirsty. She picks up a wastepaper basket from underneath the water fountain and dumps the garbage into the trash cart.

Then Thrower enters the girls' restroom. She opens the doors to each stall quickly because the bathroom smells faintly of smoke. In the last stall, she finds a large clump of toilet paper in the toilet. Unlike the person who previously used the toilet, she flushes it. Wussssh. Thrower carefully retrieves a clump of red powdered make-up from the inside of a sink and wipes up three strands of hair and water from the sink's edge.

Three female custodians are responsible for maintaining the second floor; five males, the first. Everyone shares responsibility for the third floor.

Thrower walks slowly down the hallway, past room 120. She stops, bends down and picks up what appears to be a crumpled up ball of paper and adds it to her collection of trash. Even though Thrower is on the first floor, she picks it up because "if the other custodians were to see one on the other floors, they would pick it up too."

With about one minute to go before the chaos breaks out in the halls, Thrower ducks into the room next to the cafeteria. For five minutes, she sits down and relaxes while watching students go to their next class.

"It is a lot of fun to sit and watch the kids because there are so many different hairstyles, clothes and personalities," said Thrower. "You have to love kids to work here because there are so many."

After the tardy bell rings, Thrower dustmops the second floor halls quickly, using a mop five times the size of a broom, pushing along dirt and shreds of spiral notebook paper.

Near room 270, Thrower stops as chemistry teacher Clair Rankin lectures to his class, oblivious to what is happening outside his classroom door. Stuck to the floor are two red pieces of soft candy, each about one and a half centimeters in diameter.

Upon further examination, Thrower sees that they are, in fact, squashed Skittles!! Her sensible, everyday walking shoes—according to Thrower, a custodian should always wear thick-soled shoes or tennis shoes—provide a portable tool. With the side of her foot, Thrower applies pressure to each Skittle and pries them from the floor. They are added to the pile of dirt and the mop pushes forward. Clink.

"The job is continuous and repetitive," said Thrower, "but it's worth it because if the halls look good, then you look good."



MERRILY WE SWEEP ALONG. Custodian June Williams sweeps the floor near room 270. Normally, day custodians work from 7:00 to 3:30, sweeping floors, checking the bathrooms and picking up trash. Photo by Brenda Johnson.



HEAT WAVE. When school started in August, most students wanted cool air, not hot. However, the schools' heating and cooling system did not agree. Custodians Tom Vanderpool and Tom Murray fix a radiator. Photo by Brenda Johnson.

Bond issue key to school repairs

BY VARUNI KONDAGUNTA
Staff Reporter

Tired of not knowing what time it is? Surely you have noticed the classrooms that are seemingly in different time zones, the windows that are either stuck or falling, the doorless stalls in the boys' bathrooms and the mirrorless girls' bathrooms.

What physical improvements can be made at the school?

Senior Craig Melagrano said, "Tear it down!"

But more seriously, many students feel less drastic changes are needed.

Herb Ascherman, junior, pointed out that the central heating system should be replaced in order to maintain more comfortable temperatures around the school. Sophomore Jerry Hill commented that the track and football field are in disrepair and need immediate attention.

These maintenance and repair jobs are classified as capital repairs, said Carlton Moody, Executive Director for Business and Personnel. A capital repair is anything that costs more than \$1000 and lasts more than five years. According to Moody, \$500,000 to \$700,000 are spent from the General Operating Fund in order to pay for the upkeep of the district's school buildings each year.

Superintendent Mark Freeman and the school board considered but decided against placing a bond issue on the November 1989 ballot.

"There are a number of important issues on the ballot and we decided that we would be confusing the ballot by being too much," said Moody.

The bond issue, according to Moody, will probably be put on the ballot in 1990. The revenue gained from selling bonds would have provided money for maintenance.

"We need the money because the schools have lots of deferred maintenance," said Carol Lowenthal who would have organized the bond campaign.

"You have to think of the school as a big house," said Moody. "For a long time, maintenance was deferred and repairs cost more money now."

In conjunction with the architectural firm of John David Jones and Associates, all school buildings were toured and needed repairs were noted. After the list was made, Moody prioritized the repairs and explained to the school board and superintendent what work needs to be done and why.

"Our number one priority is safety and code violations; next, interference with instruction," said Moody.

The planned repairs and renovations, said Moody, are to be distributed over a five year period and will cost an estimated two million dollars. They will be paid for by a building fund that is to be reimbursed by the selling of bonds.

Moody said that the district plans to repair the roof at the high school, repave the school's parking lots, paint and repair the inside and outside doors and door frames and install new window units.

The district also plans to replace the wooden benches in the stadium with aluminum ones, remove the exterior fence near the track, replace the track and drain the fields.

Inside the building, the district plans to re-light the large auditorium, re-carpet the library, renovate the cafeteria, repair the bathrooms and locker rooms and continue asbestos related repairs.

Life without custodians

BY JEREMY KAHN
Staff Reporter

They inhabit a strange subterranean world. They have knowledge of a vast labyrinth of steel pipes, heat and steam, insulation, miles of wire and dark storage rooms. They know the landscape of the blackboard jungle like no one else. Everyday they are called on to perform what to many seem like miracles, yet they rarely get the credit they deserve.

Who are these people? Chances are they are the same people who fixed the clock in your homeroom, repaired the radiator in your second period class and mopped the floor after your friend lost his lunch in math class. They are the 20 people making up the high school's custodial department.

On duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the custodians could be referred to as the school's only permanent residents. Just imagine what the school would be like without such a dedicated maintenance team.

We enter a school full of gloom, where cracked windows and broken lights are everywhere. A musty smell hangs in the air.

Further examination of the halls reveals that some sort of army has taken over the school. The occupying force moves up and down the halls carrying large chemical canisters. Is this a new Rekahs hall monitoring system? I think not. Their flag and uniforms read "Orkin."

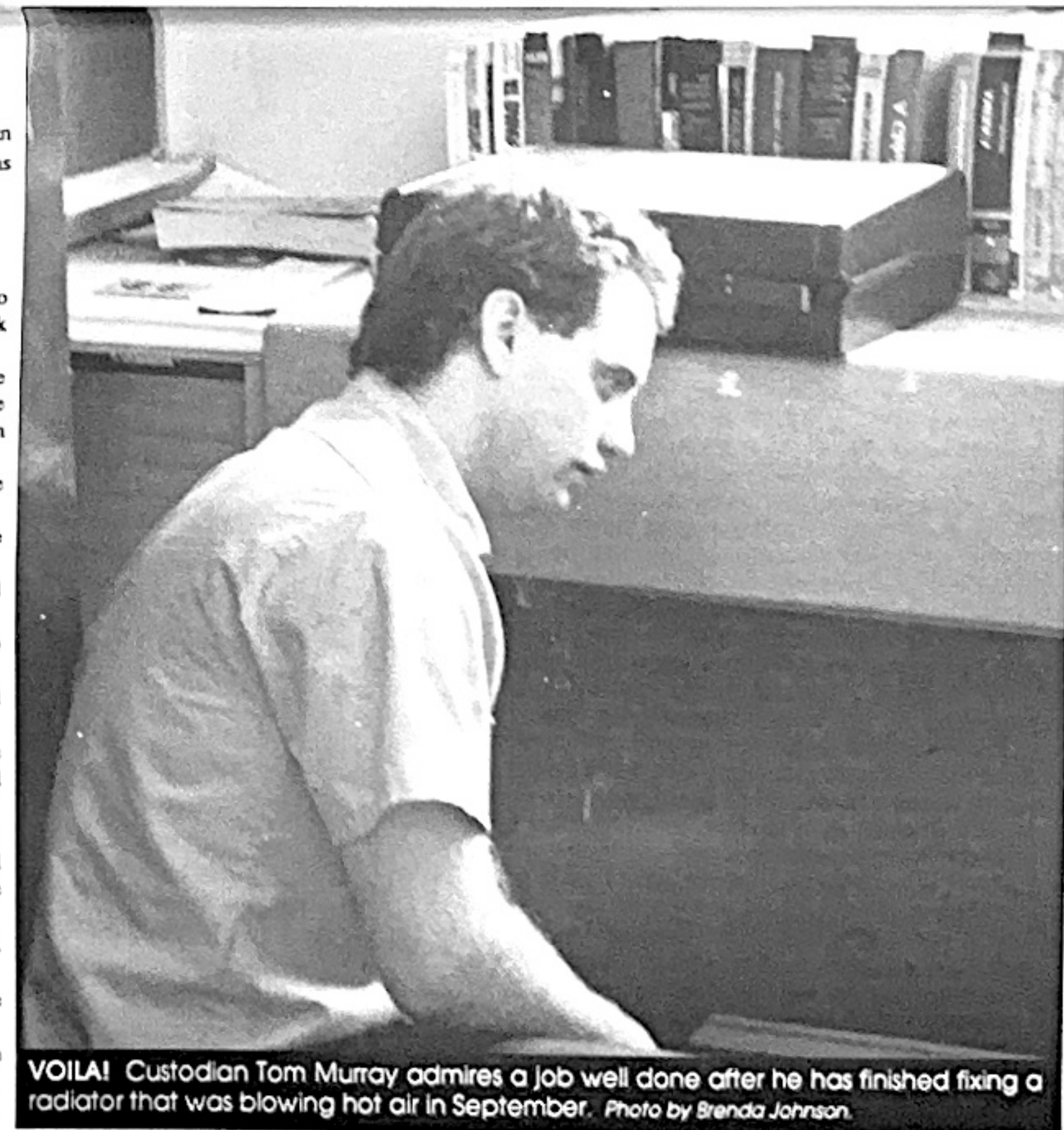
A new stench fills the air whenever a bathroom door is passed. Travel down to the boy's gym, where the locker room has a large "CONDEMNED" sign on it, and enter the state's newest toxic-waste-recycling facility. Now let's look at the pool. Well, I thought that the pool used to be here, but I was obviously mistaken. This large pond is now being used for algae cultivation and new organism development programs.

As we proceed upstairs, the climate of the school changes. Welcome to Siberia. Malfunctioning airconditioning units pump out super-cooled air. Up the stairs lies the third floor, a place reminiscent of Saharan Africa. Day time temperatures here have reached 125 degrees.

Looking in the classrooms throughout the building, we see the same thing. Students stare blankly at clocks that run counter-clockwise, while their teachers kick the radiators and read Time-Life "do-it-yourself" books. Waste baskets overflow and the bells ring randomly. Now let us return to reality.

This school does have a dedicated custodial staff and, according to head custodian Tim Bates, it is over 100 percent better in terms of cleaning and maintenance than when he started working in this building eight years ago. The custodians continue to work with administrators toward a cleaner and more maintenance free building. Students can help out by giving custodians the respect they deserve. Otherwise, that alternate reality may not be too far away.

For those teachers or students who do get impatient waiting for certain repairs, social studies department head, Terry Pollack, offers this advice on fixing a radiator: "Give it a kick...just make sure it doesn't kick you back."



VOILA! Custodian Tom Murray admires a job well done after he has finished fixing a radiator that was blowing hot air in September. Photo by Brenda Johnson.

SUMMER SIZZLERS

Martin bores viewers in 'Parenthood'

BY KATHRYN SCHULZ
Staff Reporter

Movie theaters. The aimless colors that swirl across the screen before the start of the film. The crunch of stale popcorn beneath your feet. And, if you went to see "Parenthood" this summer, the snores from your fellow viewers as producer-director Ron Howard airs his uninteresting views on raising children.

Watching "Parenthood" is as boring as going to your neighbors' house to see slides of their grandchildren. The movie jumps back and forth in time through several families and relationships, sacrific-

ing plot for a failed attempt to shed wisdom on the mystery of raising children. Nearly every possible situation in life is touched on by the writers.

The movie tells the story of the multi-generational Buckner clan. The oldest son of the Buckner clan is played by Steve Martin, and is the main focus of the movie. However, so many other issues present themselves that we do not have time to care about them.

Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel, the writers of "Parenthood," tried to present images of parents. Unfortunately, in their efforts to deal with the many hardships with which fathers or mothers may have

to cope, the filmmakers lose our interest quickly. By the end of the movie, there are so many loose strings that we can feel even the actors tripping over them. The directors are caught rushing from scene to scene gathering up stray parts, often hastily and unsatisfactorily.

Occasional sparks of witty dialogue and the charm of watching little kids be little kids are the only saving graces of the movie. But who needs a movie director to tell children how to be cute? You might as well make some popcorn and go down to your neighborhood elementary school. It's cheaper. And I doubt you would stay for two and a half hours.

Uncovering racism

BY JOSHUA LEE
Co-Editor in Chief

As incidents of racism continue to exist virtually unattended in the U. S., Spike Lee's graphic portrayal of existing racial tensions in his film, "Do the Right Thing," must be brought to the public's attention.

Incidents such as the recent New York City white gang murder of a black girl are increasing. At the same time, the socio-economic imbalance between blacks and whites in the U.S. is widening. It is therefore crucial that messages of the kind in Lee's film are brought to the public's attention.

The entire movie takes place in a predominantly black neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York. The temperature outside is sweltering and the people on the street are uptight. A radio disc jockey continually reminds his listeners how hot the weather is, reminding the audience of the heated racial tensions on the street.

The film focuses on conflicts between an Italian pizza owner and several black teens. Since the atmosphere is tense, this conflict eventually explodes into a violent race war.

Mookie (Spike Lee), a black employee at the pizza place, is frustrated from being caught in the middle of this conflict. As a white policeman kills a black teen, while trying to apprehend him for disrupting the store, Mookie finally takes out his anger. He tosses a garbage can through the restaurant's window, launching a massive sacking of the pizza parlor.

While many believe Mookie did not "do the right thing" by attempting to solve the problem in a militant fashion, it is more important to analyze the situation rather than its solution. In fact many viewers have criticized the film because they believe Mookie was wrong.

But Lee does point out the option of solving racial conflicts in a peaceful manner, as Dr. Martin Luther King exercised in the 1960's. However, Lee emphasizes the grave impossibility of a successful peace resistance movement today. He illustrates this with a retarded, stuttering character named Smiley, who peddles picture of Dr. King and Malcolm X. Most of the characters in the movie push Smiley away, demonstrating how many people find difficulty in merging militant and peaceful philosophies. Due to this mindset, violent episodes such as the one in the movie are likely to occur.

The climax might seem a tad exaggerated, yet it is acceptable due to the series of realistic characters and events which lead up to it. Yet, the fear this movie generates prompts us to desire a middle group between militancy and peaceful approaches. While Mookie did not necessarily do the right thing, we must. We must learn to work and live together; we must learn to do the right thing.

Movie connects with students' lives

BY SPIKE SPITZ
Spotlight Editor

"Men and women can never be friends because the sex thing always gets in the way," explains Harry.
"So I guess we can't be friends then," Sally replies.
"I guess not."
"Too bad. You were the only person that I knew in New York."

Harry and Sally, the two main characters in the new Rob Reiner movie, "When Harry Met Sally," set the pace of the movie early on.

The question that is asked throughout the movie is: Can men and women be close friends without sex entering into the relationship?

Harry Burns, played by Billy Crystal, says no. However, Sally Albright is not quite sure.

One thing that makes this movie very enjoyable is how it relates to the life of each student. As I sat and watched Harry and Sally slowly building their friendship and beginning to love one another, I realized that it is entirely possible for best friends of the opposite sex to fall in love.

In the darkness as I saw Harry and Sally grow closer together, I pictured myself in that same situation. I found myself wanting them to become romantically involved, yet dreading it for fear that it would ruin their friendship.

Another aspect of the movie which I related to was the old couples that talked about their first meeting with their spouse. As I laughed at their stories, which were very realistic, I wondered if someday I would be like that. The couples who gazed lovingly into each other's eyes made as big an impression on me as Crystal and Ryan did. I imagined myself 50 years from now, sitting with my husband reflecting back on our first meeting and re-living old memories.

With a movie this fun, to have anything but a happy ending would be a crime against all self-respecting moviegoers, and I can assure you, that this movie will not be a disappointment. As you watch "When Harry Met Sally," be on the lookout for some shocking restaurant scenes and sit back, relax and enjoy the show.

Learning from his students

BY SARAH DAVIS
Co-Editor-in-Chief

"Very few college professors truly look forward to returning to teach secondary school. Of all classrooms, the class most taxing to a teacher is a secondary school classroom," said Dr. Bill Newby, head of the English department.

Dr. Thomas Kelly is at Shaker instead of John Carroll University this year. As part of an exchange he initiated, he is teaching 9th and 11th grade English students while John Vargo, a Shaker teacher, is working with student teachers at John Carroll.

As a teacher's teacher, Kelly has often observed classrooms, but he has not lead a high school class since he taught English in Washington, D.C., from 1970 to 1974. After eight years as a professor, he feels that he needs to re-examine the nature of today's high school.

"I was feeling the need to return to the high school classroom to make myself a better teacher educator," said Kelly. "I wanted to try out methods that I had been reading about and made sense and were difficult to implement."

Kelly chose to work at Shaker because he had worked with the English staff as a supervisor of John Carroll student teachers. Also, he is a Shaker resident, with two children in the school system. According to Kelly, his exchange proposal was met with enthusiasm by both the high school and the university.

"John Carroll is supportive of the idea, and feels that the dialogue it can create between the school district and the university would be of mutual benefit. John Carroll would be getting someone who has been a successful practitioner, and Shaker would have the opportunity to discuss theories of education and teaching which I have read and have been part of my work," Kelly said.

One of the main educational theories Kelly wants to work with is the "inquiry approach." It is an attempt to help students think about material as active versus passive consumers knowledge, according to Kelly. Class material is designed to relate to expressed in the literature.

"Another component of my orientation is seeing the classroom not only as preparation for life, but as a living community. I try to create the sense that everyone in the class is responsible not only to themselves but to each other."

Many obstacles, according to Kelly, can prevent the feeling of community from developing within a classroom. For meaningful class discussions, students need to feel that they can take the risks to express themselves without being "put down" he said. The

belief that classmates are competing instead of cooperating can also hinder group dialogues.

"I'm hopeful that collectively, those can be overcome," Kelly said. "That is the heart of my purpose for teaching—to create caring, competent, democratic citizens. That is central to the mission statement of the Shaker schools."

The first few weeks of school have been exhausting, Kelly said. Instead of four classes a week, he is now responsible for four classes a day.

"I have an image of being buried in a mountain of paperwork. The first day I was fumbling with the attendance forms at 4:30 pm; the forms are due a little after three. I even hid one so not to show others I was not together. I didn't really hide it, but it was slipped between other papers. I noticed it when the secretary came to collect it and I didn't move it. The point is that I went sauntering in at 3:07 pm on the second day with completed forms. I felt that I had arrived. The feeling of being on top was quite ephemeral—short lived. It lasted until that evening when I started to think about what I was going to do the next day."

Kelly said that his short time at the high school has already greatly increased his respect for the challenges of high school teaching. He said that some of his ideas do not fit as smoothly as he had hoped, which comes as no surprise to veteran teachers.

"Imagine, a teacher of teachers! Of course he can teach. His classes should be dynamic, with enraptured students," he said. "What I am saying is that it certainly has not been like that."

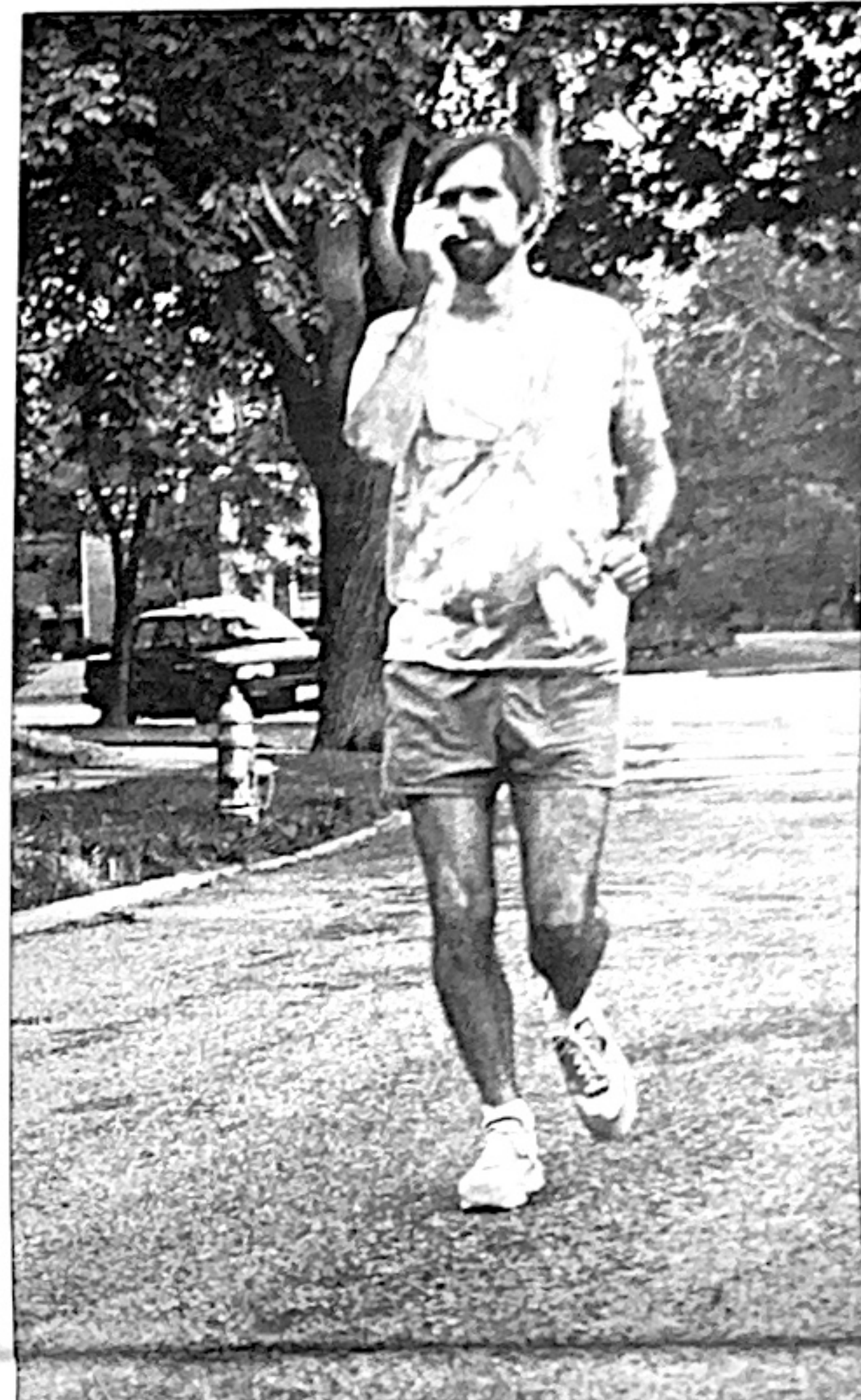
To prepare for this year, Kelly read the curriculum for 9th and 11th grade—"The Crucible," "Of Mice and Men," "Ragtime." He did not make out daily plans over the summer. According to Kelly, there was only so much he could do to prepare himself in advance of experience. Once he has felt the rhythm of the classroom, he says, he can compose schedules.

"I have clearly confirmed what I have known for a long time, that I do not know at all. That's meant to be facetious, you

"I feel a great sense of vitality and purpose. While exhausted, and very challenged, I look forward to it. I am enjoying it."

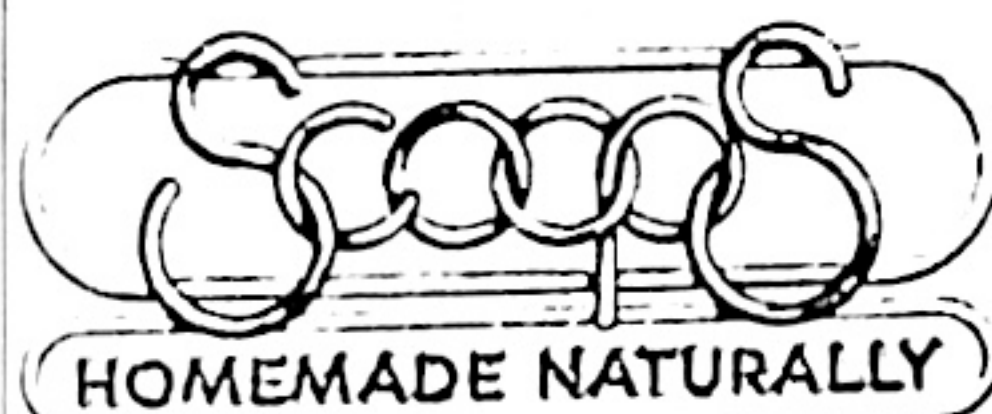
After his year at Shaker, Kelly will return to share his new insights and experiences with teachers and other instructors at John Carroll. He said he may write some articles about it.

"I view Dr. Kelly in this institution as an academic frontiersman," said Newby, "who at least in the local arena, is exploring the territory. His experience might encourage others to engage in further exchanges."



POWER JOGGING. Dr. Thomas Kelly makes his way down the street. "I dictate every day and I have started to run and dictate while I run. I say everything that comes to mind: the successes and short comings I am experiencing in trying to create a caring class." PHOTO BY EVAN WEINSTEIN

Ice Cream Adventures Start At



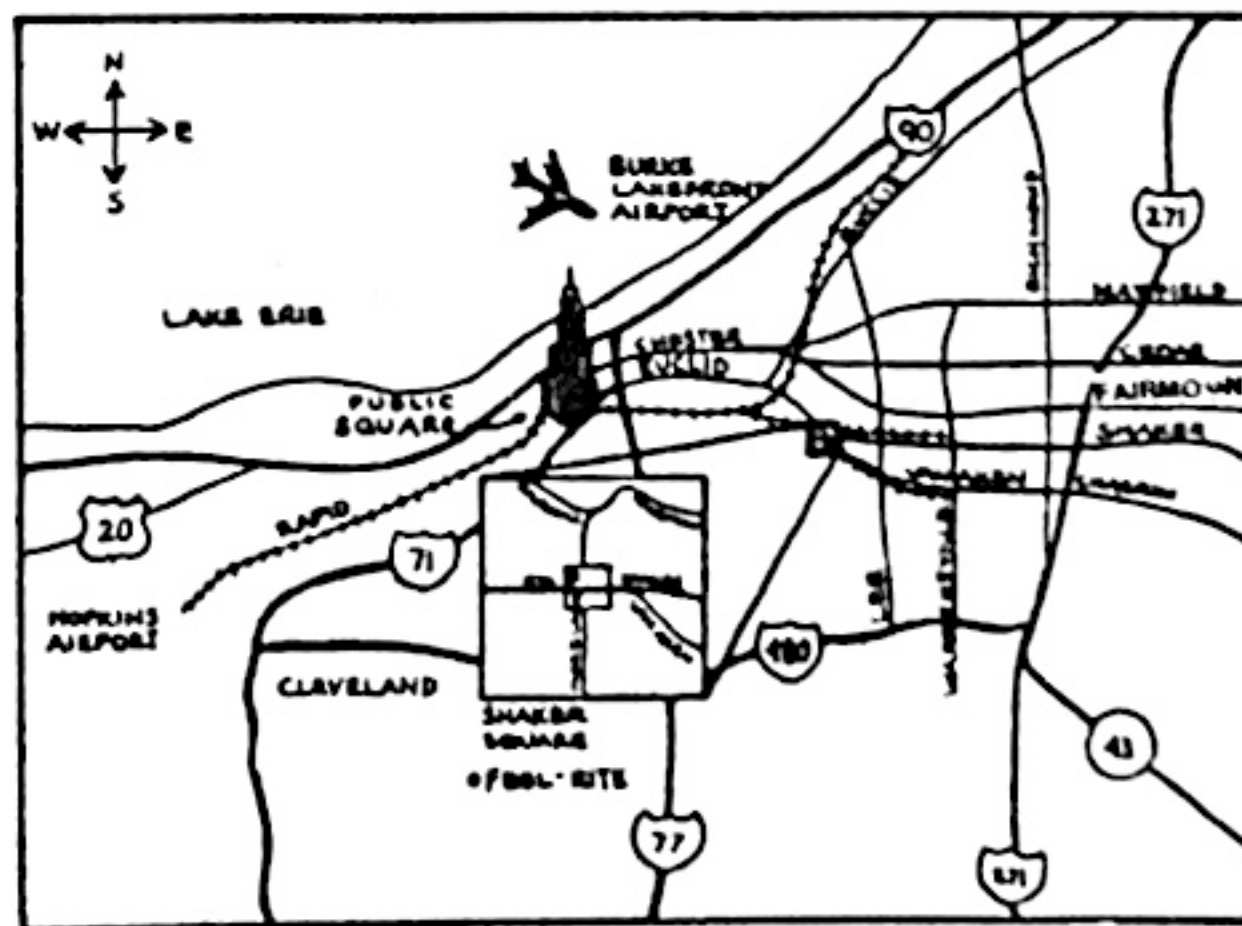
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SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY COLEMAN BURDITT

Freshman's Nightmare

BY TANIA MENESSE
Staff Reporter

Stories of fights after school and assaults in the bathrooms haunt the minds of freshmen on their first day of school.

"It has happened. Someone's arm was broken, and someone was pushed down the stairs," said senior Wendy Wright. "They think the freshman have to be initiated."

While these stories may sit in the back of a freshman's mind, most regard these as isolated incidents. The initiation, after all, usually involves a small group of students who are friends outside of school, but within school grounds feel that their underclassmen friends need to be put in their places according to Richard Vlah, junior unit principal.

"One guy got thrown out of a window into a garbage truck a couple of years ago, but I have heard that the whole hazing thing is a joke," said freshman Danielle Meshorer.

Joke or not, a few freshmen will be watching their backs at the fall pep rally and sports events.

"I have always heard that freshman guys should not go to the pep rallies. After all, that is where all the hazing happens," said a sophomore girl.

Considering the fact that upperclassmen must understand the "hell" that freshmen have to go through every fall, students wonder why hazing goes on from year to year. Some feel that it is tradition. Others say if they had to face the taunts of the upperclassmen, then so should every freshman.

"I bet if I had gone through it, I would say that hazing was okay or at least justified," said freshman Jonathon Hinze.

Complete vacation

Summer reading cut from levels two, three

BY SUSAN CONNELLY
Feature Editor

Summer is generally a time to lie back and relax away from homework, classrooms, and teachers. But, there is one exception — summer reading. In the past, mandatory summer reading has been seen by many students as an unwelcome intrusion into their vacation time. According to English department head Bill Newby, the result was that the majority of level three and two English students returned to school having failed to complete the reading.

This year, mandatory summer reading was eliminated for level two and three English classes. Although the idea was debated within the English department, Newby believes that they were left with very little choice.

"In some classes up to 80 percent of the students did not complete the reading assignment," Newby said. "When the majority of the class has not completed an assignment, it begins to have a negative effect. Then both the students and the teachers begin the year feeling like failures."

English teacher Carol Van Valkenburg agreed that the failure of students to finish their summer reading books has been a serious problem in the past.

"We would plan to spend time on the reading at the beginning of the year, but because so few students had done it, we had to spend the majority of our time waiting for the rest of the class to catch up," Van Valkenburg said. "Each year we tried to improve things, but no matter what we tried, we continued to get the same results."

For the past two years, the English department has provided students with the names of stores where books can be purchased along with a list of all required books and their prices. One year, Newby even brought the books to school to sell in order to make it easier for the students to buy. Finally, we decided it was just better to eliminate summer reading for these classes and to begin the year fresh," said Newby.

Senior Todd Griffin agreed that summer reading only made students begin the semester on a sour note.

"Summer reading was a disgrace. People who will read, will read, and people who won't read, won't," Griffin said.

However, many students and teachers feel that the elimination of summer reading was a mistake. English teacher Helen Byrdsong said that although she is sympathetic to the reasons for the change, she believes that the decision weakens the English program.

"Level three is a college preparatory class. Colleges expect outside reading in a college preparatory class," Byrdsong said. "Eliminating summer reading makes it look as if the class is not what it says it is."

"I think not having summer reading makes level three students feel as if level three is not a real class," junior Chris Harman agreed.

“

In some classes up to 80 percent of the students did not complete the reading assignment. Then both the students and the teachers begin the year feeling like failures.”

—DR. BILL NEWBY

"It makes people slack off."

Junior Theresa Colson read the reading assignment for Advanced Placement English even though she is enrolled in level three English class. Colson believes that summer reading is an important part of studying English.

"I think that your mind is like a muscle. If you don't use it, it will deteriorate," Colson said. "You have to read outside of the school year."

Newby pointed out the benefits of summer reading to the upper level classes, but he said that the summer reading

SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY KATHRYN SCHULZ



program for level two and three classes only got in the way of the class as a whole.

"It is not that we think that it lacked value, and it is not that we did not try. It is just that creating a positive classroom environment in the beginning of the year takes precedence," said Newby. "However, I believe that if we were ever in a situation where the students and parents wanted it reinstated, we would do it."

Butterflies and bandaids: Nurse's view of school

BY ALLISON MILLER
Staff Reporter

If a serious migraine should arise from long nights of cramming for that exam; if you accidentally slam your hand in your locker; if you fall out of that third story window while trying to open it—what should you do?

The solution: room 122, the infirmary.

The health office is staffed full time by Evelyn Wisham who has worked here for 10 years. She began her career at Shaker as a substitute. At the start of the next school year, she moved to the high school.

While most days at the clinic are relatively calm, some crises have arisen.

"I have seen emergencies such as severe lacerations, overdoses, people who have come to school intoxicated, cardiovascular problems, and once, a member of the faculty was injured by falling debris within the school," said Wisham.

By state law, the clinic cannot take immediate medical action beyond first aid in case of emergency and cannot dispense any medicine, unless a student brings in prescribed medication to be dispensed during school hours. So when such emergencies take place, the clinic informs the parents and then takes the victim to be treated by his or her own physician.

One crisis that many remember was the outbreak of measles here last spring. Every student is required to have had a measles vaccination before entering the school, but five percent of those vaccinated were still vulnerable to the virus.

"This time was very hectic. It was hard sometimes to try and calm down nervous parents over the phone. Some would call, and by the way they spoke, I thought another student might be infected, but they only wanted to make sure that it was safe for their child to attend school," said Wisham.

It is no secret that many students use the infirmary to get out of classes without being penalized for unexcused absence. Wisham

said that if a student has no apparent symptoms of illness, she will ask him if he has any tests or speeches to give. The response is usually "I don't know" or "I can't remember." If a student wishes to leave school, his parents must be called. Wisham recounted the story of one student who tried to leave school sick.

"I asked him what was due that day, and he said 'Nothing.' Then I called his father, and his father said, 'Oh, but he has an English test today.' After I got off the phone, I asked the young man if indeed he did have a test, and he said, 'Oh, maybe I should stay.'"

Wisham said that the best part of working at Shaker is getting to know the students.

"I really like high school age kids. Ask anyone. It is no secret. Since I've worked in the district for 10 years now and am a resident of the community, and a member of the PTA, I've watched some of these kids grow up and really flourish. It is like watching a butterfly go from a chrysalis to a monarch."

JV soccer team throws sex out the window

Mixing genders detracts from scholastic sports

THE SPORTS COLUMN

BY BRIAN RESNIK

Co-Sports Editor

How would the school react if varsity football co-captain-senior Cedric Thomas traded in his helmet and shoulder pads for a field hockey stick and kilt.

The reaction would most likely be one of surprise and disapproval. The same would happen if anybody decided to play a sport for a team of the opposite sex. Just imagine the locker room conflicts that would arise.

This year, sophomore Amanda Banchek tried out for and made the JV soccer team the boys' JV soccer team. Are her actions justified by the fact that there is no girl's soccer team or club, or is she intruding on a team that should be reserved for boys. Perhaps she is simply a rebel, trying to make a profound statement. In any case, the boy's soccer team is just that. Boys. Men. Males. Viri.

Even though Banchek did not take a spot on JV, she will most definitely want to play on the varsity level either her junior or senior year. Having girls on the varsity soccer team would be unfair to any boy who did not make the team. The team is reserved for males, just as a field hockey team is reserved for girls. If a boy tried out for volleyball or any other female sport, it would be unfair to all of the girls who did not make the team. Therefore, it is unfair for her to be on the team even if she were a better player than Pele.

If Banchek were allowed to play on the varsity soccer team, this could carry on to other sports. The effects would be

Suppose several ice hockey players decided to play field hockey in the fall. It is a scientific fact that men are stronger than women. With enough practice, these males would be able to dominate field hockey, as well as other female sports.

If several baseball players were cut from the team, they could go and possibly start for the softball team. This would be

unfair to all girl softball players.

If Banchek wishes to play soccer, one option for her would be to join an area club. Several clubs in the area sport both boys' and girls' teams.

One other alternative for Banchek would be to start a new club. Two years ago when the boys' lacrosse team started up, a group of innovative girls also wanted to play. Instead of intruding upon the men's team, they started a very successful club which is currently playing teams from other schools. While a girls' soccer club may have trouble finding other schools to compete against, the girls could play intrasquad games.

By allowing a female to participate on a male team, the

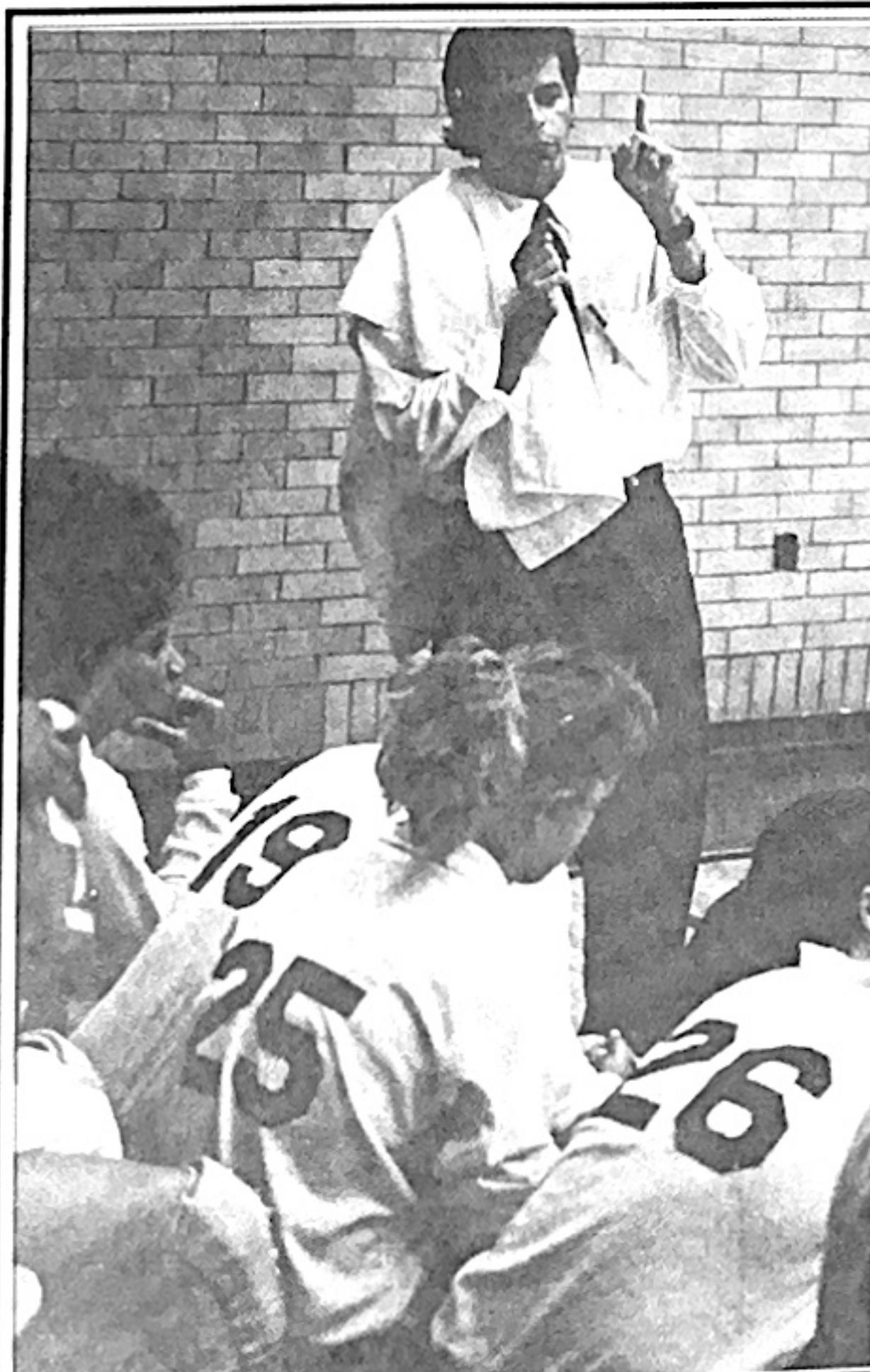
Shaker athletic department is inviting criticism from opposing schools and players. The department should change it's mind before this incident inflates to several related incidents involving athletes breaking the sex barrier.

Perhaps a simple lesson is needed regarding the difference between males and females. Males are generally larger, and tend to wear their hair shorter. While most girls have both ears pierced, guys have only one ear pierced, if any at all. Keen observers may also notice other dissimilarities in various physical features.

The school needs to keep the boys' teams separate from the girls' teams, before one minor incident is blown completely out of proportion.



Shakerite artwork by Oliver Dalzell



HEY, GET FIRED UP! New volleyball coach Axel Otero gives his team a pep talk before a recent game. photo by Annette Croom

Coach 'O' shapes up volleyball

BY STACY SCHLEIN

Co-Sports Editor

Volleyball. Over the past few years that was about all that was needed to explain the sport. Now things are changing because of a new coach.

This year, Shaker named Axel Otero the new head volleyball coach, and he has introduced several changes to the program.

"My goal is to establish a winning program," Otero said. "I know Shaker used to go to Regionals at one period for seven years in a row. I want to bring competitive volleyball back in the system and eventually become state champs."

Otero has introduced several new training techniques to the squad, such as the jump box, plyometrics, track work and some weight training. The jump box is a box that the players jump up on to increase their vertical jump. While plyometrics are various exercises that improve speed and jumping ability.

"Plyometrics brings out a lot that [the athletes] do not know about," Otero said.

"Coach O," as the team members call him is no stranger to the sport.

"I came from a hometown where we were all born with a volleyball in our hand," Otero said.

Otero, Spanish teacher at Martin Luther King Law and Public Service Magnet High School (no relation to Antonio Otero, Spanish teacher at Shaker) moved to Puerto Rico at age 12. He quickly picked up the game of volleyball.

This interest in the sport carried him through high school and eventually college. Otero began coaching while attending the University of Sacred Heart in Puerto Rico.

"While at the University of Sacred Heart, I coached [boys and girls] at a high school as a part of a work study program," Otero said.

Two years later, he transferred to Ohio State University and began playing on the university's junior varsity team. Eventually he played on the Puerto Rican Junior National team. During this time, he competed in Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Canada.

Even now, Otero is a member of an Ohio team consisting of former members of the Ohio State volleyball team and the Puerto Rican national team. Each weekend in the winter, Otero travels to Columbus to play with the team.

With all the benefits of this experience, Otero is hoping to help the Red Raider volleyball program regain its good reputation.

"Otero has a good background and enthusiasm. Also he really wanted to [coach]," said girls athletic director Mary Ellen Leuty. "The team is doing very well so far."

The team's performance at the Euclid tournament is proof of its new success. In the first round the Red Raiders defeated Lake Catholic in three matches. Shaker made it all the way to the tournament finals before being defeated by Euclid 15-3, 15-8.

Otero explained that his form of coaching is similar to that found in college. As a result, the girls will be familiar with a higher level of practice.

"This season is great compared to last year. It is smoother and more organized," sophomore Wandy Wyley said. "I feel there is a closer relationship between the team and the coach."

KICKING FOR A TITLE

Despite a 4-3-1 overall record, the varsity soccer team is optimistic about defending its suburban league championship.

"We lost to Mayfield, the best team on the east side, and to Western Reserve Academy, which is always a tough and talented team," head coach Baird Wiehe said. "We did beat Hudson, which has been a rare occurrence in the past 20 years."

"We have a very experienced team with nine seniors. We plan to win our league," senior co-captain Paul Webb said.

The squad's first place tie with Cleveland Heights in the University School preview was a strong indication of how the Red Raiders will finish.

BANGED UP BUNCH

After an impressive start, the boys' cross country team is confident about this season.

According to team members, the team is strong enough to win the LEL title.

"Injuries may prevent us from [winning the LEL]," coach Charles Richard said.

Team members agree that injuries are their major obstacle. Top man senior Kevin McQuillen is suffering from stress fractures. Also, senior Kevin Wiley will be unable to run for several weeks due to back problems after a car accident.

As in the past, the boys' biggest threat will be Lakewood. Yet the team is still working toward States.

"We do not have the depth that I would like," Richard said. "but we do the best we can. I am always looking ahead."

THINNING OUT

According to coach Rod MacLeod the girls' cross country team has already done extremely well considering the small 10 member squad.

"The number of people is our weakness," coach Rod MacLeod said. "We need about five more people and we do not have any freshmen. That is going to hurt us."

There was an unexpected twist when Cleveland Central Catholic and Trinity never showed up for the first meet of the

The lady Red Raiders are now 4-0 after blowing out Brush 16-47, Valley Forge 17-46 and Normandy 15-50 (the team with the lowest score wins).

"Even though it is a small team, there is a lot of support and we know each other really well," junior team member Kelly McMenamin said.

MacLeod said this group came back from summer break in good shape. He has noticed the team's strong condition because this is the first year that the team runs four to six miles and no one comes back complaining.

Cross country teams remain undefeated; Golf squad eyes LEL title

AROUND THE OVAL

RED RAIDER RECORDS

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY	5-0
FIELD HOCKEY	3-0
FOOTBALL	1-2
GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY	4-0
GIRLS' TENNIS	8-3
GOLF	8-1
SOCCER	5-3-1
VOLLEYBALL	4-6

ON TOP OF SPAGHETTI

Pre-game spaghetti dinners and team unity appear to be The lady Red Raiders have a record of 6-3. Their pre-season play consisted of games against Laurel, Hudson, Columbus School for Girls and Cleveland Heights. Shaker went 1-1-2 in the preseason.

"We had a rough start in the first game due to nerves," senior team captain Gail Wiener said. "We are a young team. Lately, we have been working really hard on defensive skills and moving the ball down the field and scoring."

This season there are seven returning varsity players and one freshman, Katie Andrews.

IN WITH THE NEW

Youth was the strength of the boys' tennis team last spring and apparently it will be the key to the girls' tennis team this season.

Freshman Heidi Jacobson has established herself at second singles. Freshman Kim Weisman is a contender for a spot at second doubles.

Senior Ellen Rudolph holds the position of first singles and junior Cathy Wilcoff plays at third singles. Senior Jenny Chalabian and junior Sarah Kirchner make up the first doubles team.

Coach Al Slawson said the players are close in ability and have "a willingness to work very hard."

After winning the LEL for the past five years straight, the team currently stands at 8-3.

STRUGGLING SQUAD

The Red Raider football squad, despite a 1-2 record, has strong potential for the season according to head coach Al Raymond.

It kicked off the season with a tough loss to Holy Name in a game they should have won according to several spectators.

The next game was a 30-0 blowout against Cleveland Central Catholic. This game showcased the true Shaker defense which shut down the run immediately in the early going and then handled the weak passing game the rest of the way.

The Raiders' last outing against Solon was a bitter 26-6 defeat.

According to Raymond, the teams' strength is their defense which is hard to run on with a few holes in the secondary.

"They are as good a team as any they will play and can go as far as they want to go," Raymond said.

OUT ON THE LINKS

Decked out in their plaid knickers and country club shirts, the Red Raider golf team has driven, chipped and putted its way to a 7-1 record as of press time. They have posted this impressive record despite losing top ranked player and captain senior "Losing Bryan was definitely a big blow to the team," head coach Bob Wonson said.

According to second ranked junior Danny Lewis, the team is expecting a 20 victory season. The team's only defeat thus far has been a loss to University School.

The linksters are anticipating a showdown with Lakewood for the LEL title.

"We can beat Lakewood if we just get a lower score than them," Lewis said. "That is the secret to golf, shooting for a lower score."



Senator Lee Fisher reads the Shakerite. Shouldn't You?

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